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DAILY 49ER

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49ers hold off Fullerton

LBSU led by as many as 18 points before allowing the Titans to within three late in the fourth quarter.

By Will Hernandez
Assistant Sports Editor

Despite a late second half comeback by Cal State Fullerton, the Long Beach State women's basketball team hung on to defeat the Titans 62-57 on Wednesday night inside the Walter Pyramid.

The 49ers (14-5, 3-2) led by 17 points at halftime, but were outscored 36-25 in the second half, allowing CSUF (2-16, 0-4) to come within three points of LBSU late in the game.

"Credit [CSUF], they kept playing," 49er head coach Jody Wynn said. "We lost a little bit of our focus and they didn't."

LBSU started off the game on a 10-0 run and didn't allow a Titan field goal until the 3:15 mark.

"We played beautiful basketball in the first quarter," Wynn said. "It is probably the best basketball we have played this season."

Sophomore guard Gigi Hascheff got a lucky bounce after throwing up a three pointer in the last seconds of the first quarter. Her bank triple capped off a huge first quarter which gave the

see **BASKETBALL**, page 8

Ben Hammerton | Daily 49er

Junior forward Madison Montgomery takes a jump shot in LBSU's win over Cal State Fullerton on Wednesday inside the Walter Pyramid.

Chancellor to visit Cal State Long Beach

Timothy White will host an open panel discussion with students and faculty.

By Valerie Osier
Assistant News Editor

California State University Chancellor Timothy P. White will hold an open forum today where students will be able to discuss innovation on campus that leads to student success.

White has been on a systemwide tour of all the California State Universities to connect with students, faculty and influential community members.

This is the ninth formal visit this year designed for White to get greater insight into the faculty-student interface of each campus. The idea is for White to immerse himself among students to see what works and what doesn't work with "innovation in academics."

The Daily 49er talked with the chancellor before the forum to discuss some of the biggest issues White faces, including the wage disagreement with the California Faculty Association, disparate graduation rates and student success.

What innovative student learning have you seen in the tours so far?

I've found it an informal learning environment, such as visiting with students in anthropology who are learning how to do digs out in a mock-dig site. And then finding out that the reason that that student is interested in [anthropology] is because she wanted to, when she graduates, give back to society by helping identify bones of veterans in horrific events that happen around the world, and she wants to reunite the

see **WHITE**, page 3

Pablo De La Hoya | University Times

CSU Chancellor Timothy P. White and Pat Brown Institute Executive Director Raphael J. Sonenshein host an open panel discussion with students and faculty at Cal State Los Angeles on Tuesday.

LBSU
Open Forum
with
Chancellor
Timothy White

When: Today,
1:40 p.m.

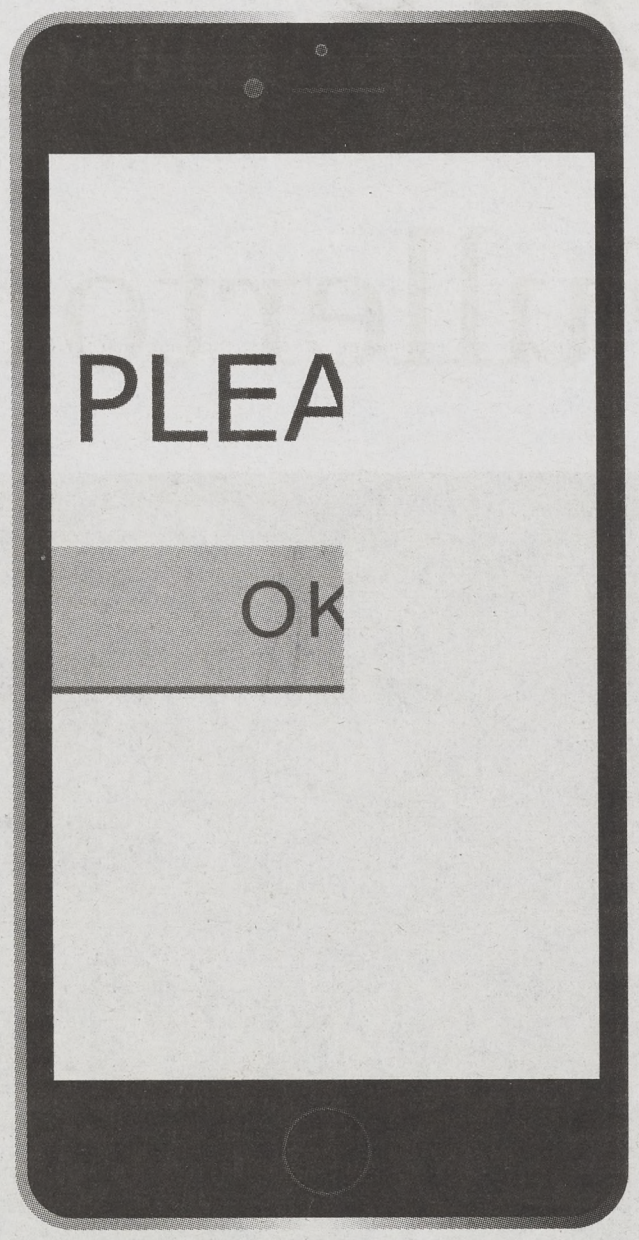
Where: The
Pointe inside The
Walter Pryamid

News 2 | Arts & Life 4 | Opinions 6 | Sports 8

Students trip over new MyCSULB

Adjustments to university site are creating problems for some 49ers.

By Natalie Rodriguez
Staff Writer



Students attempting to access MyCSULB on mobile devices were only able to view a limited window on their screen.

Several students were unable to access their MyCSULB accounts on their cellphones and computers during the last two weeks.

Students consistently rely on two of the university's website pages: MyCSULB and Beachboard, which allow them to create and view their schedules and to update and keep themselves informed of their courses and university life.

Ana Ibarra, a freshman psychology major, said she had trouble accessing her portal during the second week of January.

"I did suspect some difficulties while trying to log into MyCSULB, but I sort of knew it was going to happen due to the warning email that the university sent us," Ibarra said. "I told myself that it wasn't a big deal and that I'll try to log in some other day."

Mariela Herrera, a senior criminal justice major, said she had trouble accessing the page during the second week of January, and it wasn't until the day before school that she was able to log in to her portal.

"On Monday, the day before school, I was barely able to log into my portal with no problems, but prior to that I had difficulties accessing the page during the second week of January as well."

Herrera said her professors had trouble accessing Beachboard as well.

She also had trouble logging into the portal on her cellphone.

"Although I was finally able to log into my account that Monday, for some reason I had trouble because the page appeared zoomed in on my phone, and I wasn't able to zoom out," Herrera said.

Janet Foster, Cal State Long Beach Associate Vice President of Information Technology Services, sent an email Jan. 15 to address the issue.

"Please be aware that MyCSULB has recently undergone a required upgrade," Foster said. "As a result, you may experience some difficulty accessing the MyCSULB login page if you have bookmarked or saved the page as a favorite in your browser history."

The email also provided some helpful tips for students who have had or will face difficulties while trying to log in and accessing the page.

Clear the cookies and cache or browsing history on the internet browser.

Go to the MyCSULB portal as usual, and try to log in again.

"Although MyCSULB did not experience any downtime or outage as a result of the upgrade, some users may have experienced problems if they had the old MyCSULB URL bookmarked or cache in their browser," Executive Director of Media and Digital News Michael Uhlenkamp said in an email.

"For these users, clearing the cache, forgetting browser history and updating bookmarks resolved the problem," Uhlenkamp said.

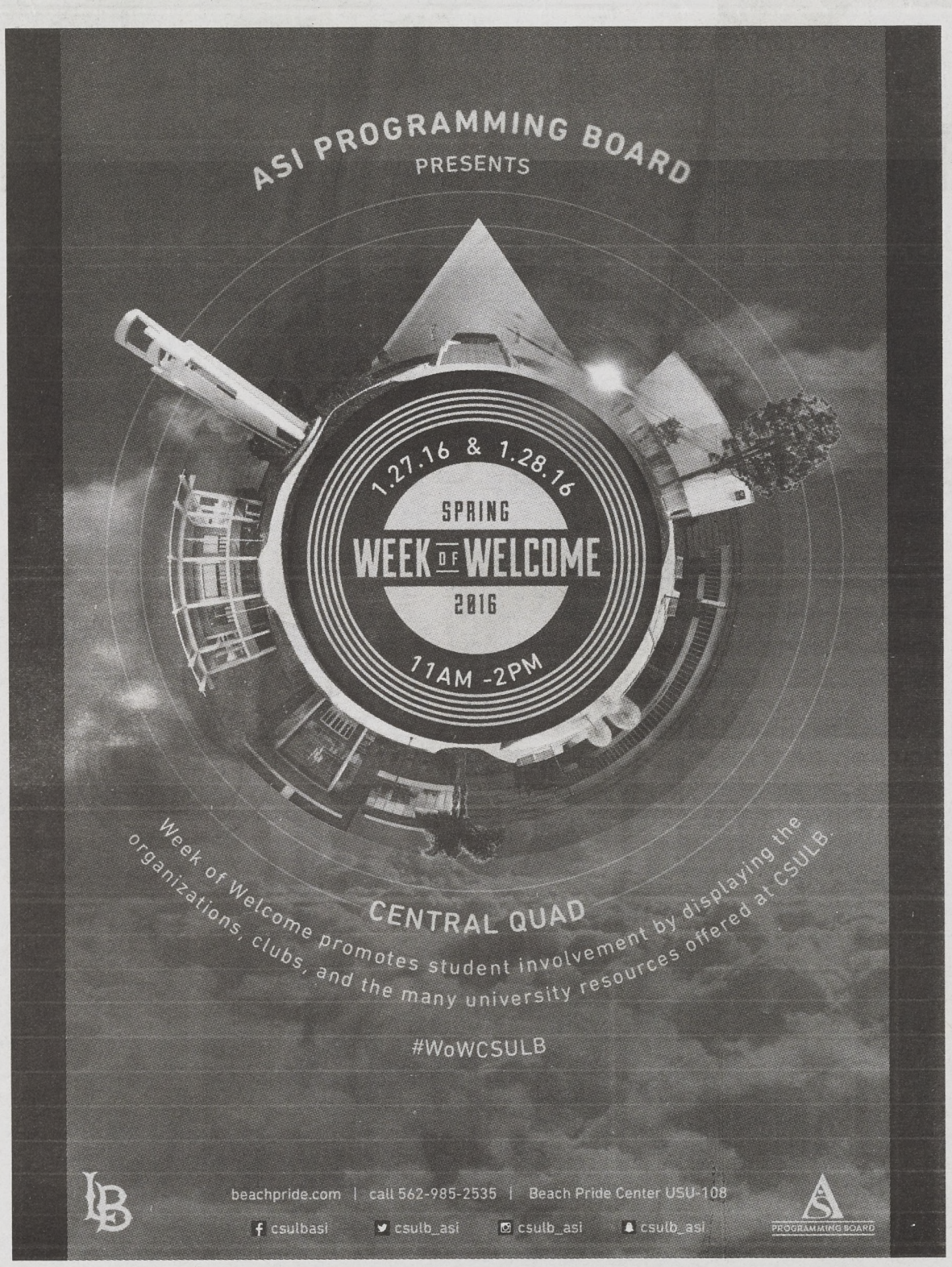
"There hasn't been anyone voicing a concern against updating MyCSULB, and the required update allows us to receive the latest functionality, support and enhancements from Oracle," Uhlenkamp said.

Oracle is CSULB's website vendor.

Although the page is supposed to help students and faculty with an easier and quicker approach to resources, it brought some frustration to students, according to Ibarra.

"I noticed the new website design, and I actually think that it is way better and much easier," Ibarra said. "Plus, it looks more up to date and modernized."

For more help, students can contact the Technology Help Desk at 562-985-4959.



WHITE

continued from page 1

family with the bones of a dead veteran. So what I learned there is how deep our moral fabric can go.

Those insights help me do my job as chancellor, representing you as a student and all the other students and our employees and what we do in the business sector and with our elected officials. These visits are not just interesting and engaging in and of themselves, they give me the hands-on feeling, the fingers on the pulse, if you will, of what's working and what's not working.

What have you seen on the campuses that works well?

I've seen how faculty have integrated technology into relatively large lectures, to help personalize the learning for individual students, and how it also gives the faculty member in real-time a sense of whether the important content of the day's discussion is being received or not ... For me, the use of technology is to really supplement the human factor of teaching and learning and enhance and embrace and facilitate it, but never to replace it.

What have you seen on the campuses that does not work well?

Some of [the problems] are when we don't have enough courses at the right time, or students can't get the information they need in academic advising, or [can't] get into financial aid in time and run into financial problems that could've been avoided. So there's operational and logistical things that don't work.

What are some ways you think the CSU's can improve that?

. . . Having the courage to say, 'This is a really good idea, [a] practice that is creating more student achievement and more success, let's try and scale it up, take it to more classes on a given campus or take it across many campuses.' And sometimes we try things that end up not making an improvement, then we have to have the courage to say, 'Well we gave this a solid chance, we looked at the outcomes and they're not any better, so let's stop doing this intervention and try some other one.'

In terms of faculty helping each other be successful, how do you feel about the current threat of a strike from the California Faculty Association? How do you think that is going to affect student success?

Clearly students have a right to have an expectation that their learning environment does not get disrupted. So if there were to be a disruption, that seems to me to be not fair to students, and I'm hopeful that we're in active bargaining with union leadership, and that's where those conversations, you know, libel, practice, policy and law have to be. But I'm optimistic that we will find solutions and that students will not be negatively impacted.

I've been reading that the CFA feels that a one day strike won't hurt students. How do you feel about that?

Like I say, what I'd like to do is direct some of this energy that is being

> "Clearly students have a right to have an expectation that their learning environment does not get disrupted."
>
> *-Timothy P. White, California State University Chancellor*

expressed now and have everybody come back together, as we have in the past and focus that energy on Sacramento in our advocacy activity.

So part of my role is, while I acknowledge the concerns that are out there, and I understand them, and I appreciate people's passion about the CSU, I'm also a realist and practical about this and let's turn that energy, that attention, to the halls of the capital and Sacramento, which is where a little bit of over half of our resources come from, and turn that energy into ways of serving California's future by educating students, staying focused on students and student success.

In Governor Brown's budget report this year, he said that only 15 percent of students are graduating in four years and criticized the CSU for trying to boost enrollment rates when they aren't graduating students at the same rate. How do you respond to that?

Several years ago, we started what is called the Graduation Initiative, which was then a very focused effort on all 23 campuses as well as here in the chancellor's office to improve the graduation rates of the [CSU] students. Now, graduation rates can be calculated a whole host of ways. The federal way, which is what the governor is referring to is on what's called the [Integrated Postsecondary Data System], a national database graduation rate test calculated totally on students who are first time freshmen, going full-time.

As you well know, many CSU students don't go full-time.

That's different than the elite universities in America where kids typically come out of high school . . . and [when] they go to school, they're fully prepared. They have no academic deficiencies because they've come out of amazing public or private schooling . . . and they can get in and out in four years.

But at the CSU, we have many students. They're older than average, they're working, they transferred in from community colleges, then they stop in and stop out on their way to a degree.

So that's why the six year graduation rate, not only for CSU, but for almost any university in America, is a more realistic measure of success.

But what we really need to have in this country and this state is really keeping track of enrolled time to degree ... We don't measure enrolled time to degree, which would really be an accurate way, because the databases, when they got set up in the '50s and '60s, were set up for traditional college kids that go to school for four years and get out. There's a lot of national effort and we're part of that effort to try and redefine the way in which we measure graduation success — measure it in a way that's appropriate to and realistic for today's students, which are much more heterogeneous and varied than they were back in the '50s, '60s and '70s.

So I will never apologize for our students. We are focusing on improving the 4-year rate, we are focusing on improving the 6-year rate and the 8-year rate.

. . . Sometimes it takes a while to get there, and it's really important . . . it's not where you start, it's where you end up, and it's what you do along the way that really matters.

COMMUNITY

Long Beach votes to raise minimum wage

The city aims to increase pay to $15 an hour by 2021.

By Greg Diaz
Editor in Chief

The Long Beach City Council voted yesterday to raise minimum wage to $10.50 per hour beginning January 2017.

Under the ordinance, minimum wage will increase to $12 in 2018 and $13 in 2019, at which point the city will conduct a study on the effects of the wage increase. If the city finds little negative impact from the increase, wages will move to $14 in 2020 and $15 in 2021.

"An increased minimum wage will stimulate our economy and help many families who struggle to make ends meet," Mayor Robert Garcia said in a statement. "I believe every worker in our city deserves a living wage."

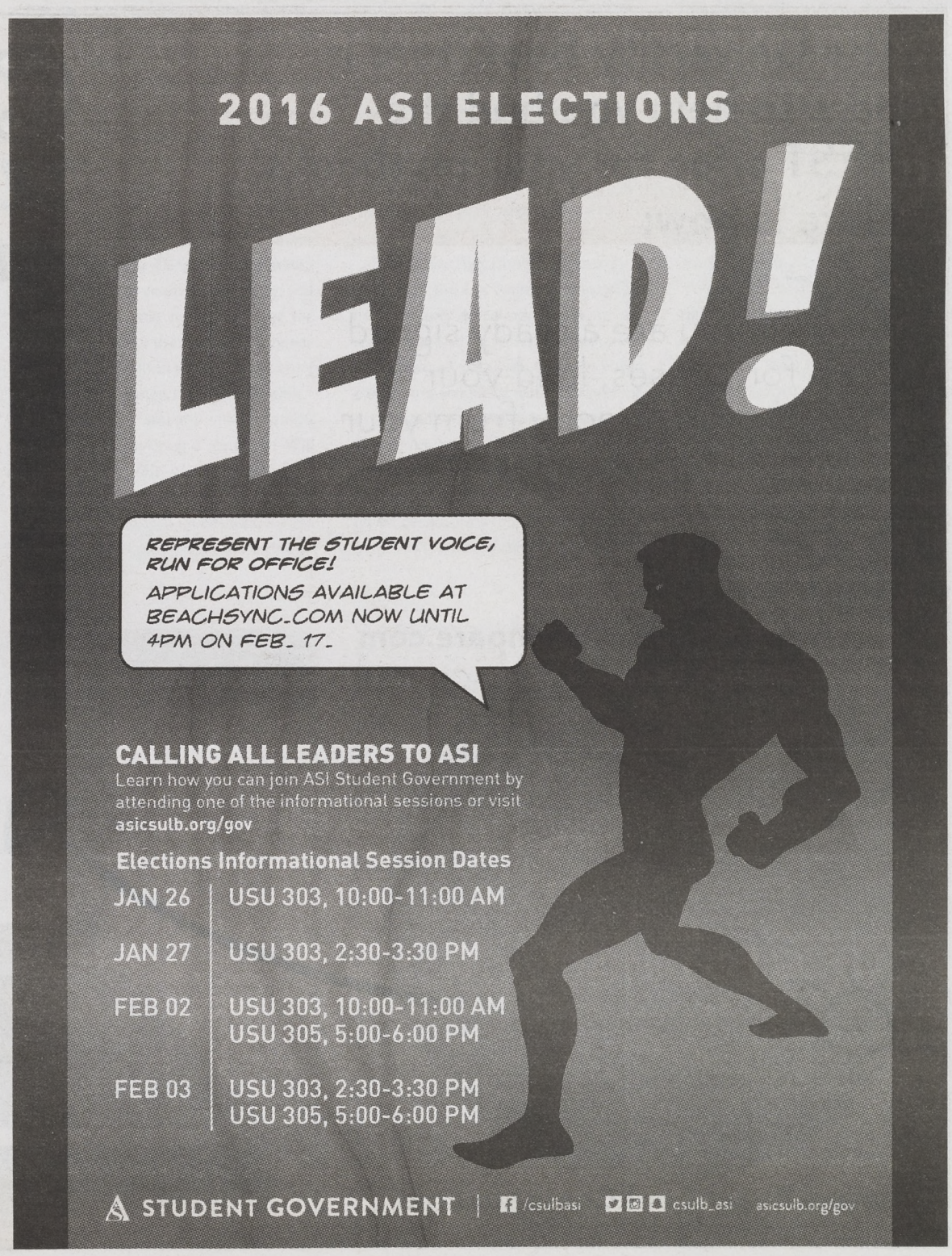
This ordinance follows the recommendation of the city's Economic Development Commission, which studied the City of Los Angeles' decision to raise minimum wage in June 2015.

Los Angeles approved raising its minimum wage in June 2015.

Businesses with 25 or fewer employees and all nonprofits will have an extra year before implementing the new minimum wage, according to the mayor's office.

Over the fall, Long Beach held multiple community review sessions, allowing citizens to review the study and comment on its potential impact.

The ordinance will be submitted for the council's final approval next month.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Retract into the Retro

A run-down on a few of the little gems you can find on Retro Row.

BY MIRANDA ANDRADE-CEJA
Arts & Life Editor

Vegan milkshakes. Customized roller skates. Weird Russian dolls. Where can one find all of these oddities in one place?

Retro Row spans from a small bike shop on Cherry Avenue to Portfolio Coffeehouse on Junipero Avenue, dedicating three blocks on Fourth Street to thrift stores and gluten-free goodness. Whether you're looking for an interesting date spot or looking for a hideous orange sports jacket, Retro Row on Fourth Street is a must-see for any Cal State Long Beach student.

Here are a few standout spots on Fourth Street. Bonus points for whoever hits more than two spots in one day.

1. The **Art Theatre** is a must-visit if you find yourself near Fourth Street. After opening in 1924 as a silent movie theatre, the Art Deco-esque venue houses 646 seats as well as a pipe organ and orchestra pit. In a 2016 poll, the Long Beach Art Theatre, showing numerous blockbuster hits (such as "The Revenant") and independent films alike. If you want to take your significant other to "see a movie," check out the events that this theatre hosts on a weekly basis.

2025 E Fourth St.

Hours: Monday-Friday 6:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 8 a.m.-7 p.m..

2. **Songbird** is kitsch and indisputably Long Beach. Housing trinkets and toys for all people, this boutique features local artists and has something for everyone. Personally, many of my friend's gifts are bought from this shop—it's adorable, fun and an incredible homage to 4th Street's classic funkiness.

2240 E Fourth St.

Hours: Monday-Friday 12 p.m.-7 p.m., Saturday 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Sunday 10:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m..

3. If you've always had an interest in roller skating (or just hanging around cute girls in roller skates), try out **Moxi Roller Skate Shop**. Not only can you find some starter skates to scoot around in, but Moxi's sponsors the Beach Cities Roller Derby, which is a recreational and competitive coed league—in fact, most of the Moxi staff play roller derby, and are more than helpful for starting out.

2132 E. Fourth St.

Hours: Tuesday-Thursday Thursday 12 p.m.- 6 p.m., Friday and Saturday 12 p.m.-7 p.m., closed Monday.

4. Before Retro Row become a hotspot for lovers of granola and bored college students, it was known for its thrifting. **AIDS Assistance Thrift Store** is a staple store on Retro Row. The store itself is a non-profit charity, extending aid to men, women and children living with HIV and AIDS in the Long Beach area. This store comes with a high recommendation. From dusty armoires to antique jewelry, AIDS Assistance has nearly everything you could want and probably don't need.

2011 E. Fourth St.

Hours: Thursday-Saturday 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday and Tuesday 11 a.m.-4 p.m., closed Monday.

5. The **Flea Espresso Bar** sounds as cute as it actually is. With the random blasts of cold weather El Niño delivers, the Flea is the place to go if you're planning on strolling up and down Retro Row. The hot drinks are delicious, the people are friendly—and this particular coffee house stays open past closing hours on select nights, so be sure to check the hours.

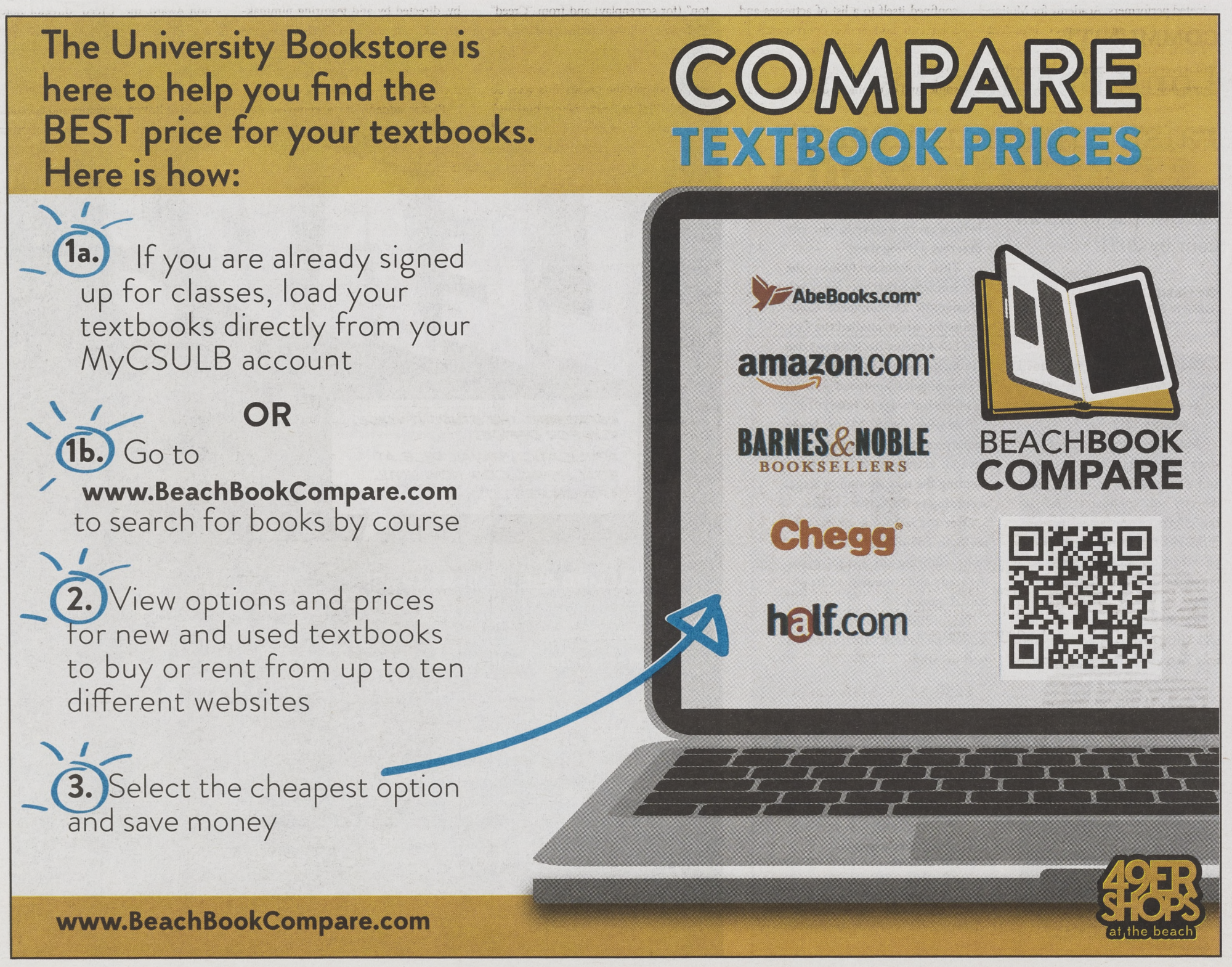
2023 E. Fourth St.

Wednesday and Thursday 7 a.m.-7 p.m., Friday 7 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday 7 a.m.-3 p.m., closed Tuesday.

6. **Meow**, both a shop name and a cat sound, has a decidedly mod vibe about it. The store looks like you dug into Twiggy's closet, if Twiggy had been really into polyester formal gloves and vintage fur coats. Though the shop is a little pricey, no feeling comes close to the excitement of rummaging through the packed racks of retro clothing and finding a hidden gem.

2210 E. Fourth St.

Hours: Monday-Thursday 12 p.m.-6:30 p.m., Friday 12 p.m.-8 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Sunday 12 p.m.-6 p.m.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49ER SHOPS at the beach

'Ip Man 3' is a satisfying, surprisingly touching, action movie

Any movie that features Hong Kong martial arts/action star Donnie Yen going up against Mike Tyson with fight choreography designed by Yuen Woo-Ping ("The Matrix," "Kill Bill") at least has a sense of humor about itself. But "Ip Man 3" _ the latest in a long line of films about the legendary Ip Man, the real-life master who trained Bruce Lee in the mighty art of the wing chun style of kung-fu_is more than this burst of stunt casting and pop-culture cool suggests.

A satisfyingly electric action movie that is also surprisingly touching and personal, "Ip Man 3" confounds the usual downward spiral of sequels. It's more visceral and fun than its two predecessors and other riffs on the man's life such as "Ip Man: The Final Fight" or Wong Kar-Wai's beautiful but chilly "The Grandmaster."

"Ip Man" and "Ip Man 2" portrayed the character as a freedom fighter in China against the invading Japanese in the '30s and in Hong Kong against British colonialism in the '40s respectively. In "Ip Man 3," it's 1959 and an older Ip Man (Yen, reprising his role) seems to have put all that behind him. He's settled into an easy, quiet life in Hong Kong with his wife (Lynn Hung) and young son (Wang Yan Shi).

But, as in "The Godfather" _ where just when you thought you were out, they drag you back in _ trouble comes looking for him. Frank (Tyson), an American crime lord in Hong Kong, wants the property where Ip Man's son attends school. He and his toughs rough up the principal and torch the place.

Meanwhile, Cheung Tin-chi (Jin Zhang), the father of another student, is a down-on-his-luck would-be wing chun master who makes a living as a rickshaw driver and underground, back-alley kung-fu brawler. With ambitions of being as widely admired (and feared) as Ip Man, he's tempted to the dark side when one of Frank's minions hires him as muscle. So, once again, Ip Man has to fight for what's right.

Just as all this is happening, Ip Man has to deal with his wife being diagnosed with terminal cancer. It's this side of the film that gives it an emotional resonance that's not usually found in martial-arts movies.

Besides the strikingly staged and well-choreographed fight scenes, "Ip Man 3" is also an enjoyably cartoonish Hong Kong time capsule where Frank and the English police are routinely called "foreign devils," the English still say "cheerio," cha-cha classes are the in thing, and the thugs look like extras from "American Graffiti."

The one drawback _ or plus, depending on one's tolerance for unintentional humor _ is the cardboard acting. As usual, the unflappable Yen shows off his calm, zen style of fighting but no one's going to be showering Tyson with Oscars any time soon. Still, this isn't enough to knock down "Ip Man 3."

-Cary Darling, Fort Worth Star-Telegram, TNS

WELL GO USA

Hong Kong martial arts/action star Donnie Yen in "Ip Man 3."

Oscars aren't the diversity problem — moviemaking is

Earlier this week, dealing with the controversy over the 20-out-of-20 whiteness ratio in this year's Oscar-nominated performers, Academy for Motion Picture Arts and Sciences President Cheryl Boone Isaacs issued a statement of regret and, within that, a statement of intention.

"While we celebrate their extraordinary achievements," wrote Boone Isaacs, the first African-American president in the academy's history, "I am both heartbroken and frustrated about the lack of inclusion. This is a difficult but important conversation, and it's time for big changes. The Academy is taking dramatic steps to alter the makeup of our membership. In the coming days and weeks we will conduct a review of our membership recruitment in order to bring about much-needed diversity in our 2016 class and beyond."

She added, "the mandate is inclusion in all of its facets: gender, race, ethnicity and sexual orientation."

We have been here before with the Oscars. Last year, in fact. The Academy Awards handed out a year ago also confined itself to a list of actresses and actors, in lead and supporting ranks, reflecting a monolithically white talent roster. It's not a matter of implementing some kind of unofficial quota. It's a matter of recognizing what's there, in front of the academy's face. It's talent going unrecognized, from Idris Elba in "Beasts of No Nation" on down.

Many of us have our particular examples of head-smacking Oscar nomination exclusions in front of and behind the camera. Last year it was certifiably ignorant for Ava DuVernay, director of "Selma," not to receive an Oscar nomination. This year it was certifiably ignorant for Ryan Coogler, director of "Creed," not to receive an Oscar nomination. It was certifiably ignorant for Michael B. Jordan, giving a sturdy, old-fashioned star performance, not to receive a best actor nod for "Creed." And while I have problems with "Straight Outta Compton," it sends an amusingly clueless message to nominate only white folks from "Compton" (for screenplay) and from "Creed" (Sylvester Stallone, a prime candidate for the best supporting actor prize).

Spike Lee declared Monday that he would boycott the Oscars this year. So did Jada Pinkett Smith, whose husband, Will Smith, stars in "Concussion" and didn't get the nomination some think he deserved.

Decades from now, maybe it'll be easier to discuss the Oscars without breaking everything down by ethnicity and gender. We'll only need to change the entire makeup of the academy membership, not to mention the power structure of the film industry, for that to happen.

Last week "Straight Outta Compton" and "Ride Along 2" producer Will Packer wrote this on Facebook: "The academy's voting record is only part of the issue. These films/performances and the scripts that drive them often go into development YEARS before they are released and thus in Oscar contention. We need more content produced by, written by, directed by and featuring filmmakers and actors of color being given the greenlight. … We need them to start moving forward this year so in 2019 there are quality projects in contention."

Packer added: "It's a complete embarrassment to say that the heights of cinematic achievement have only been reached by white people. I repeat — it's embarrassing."

Packer was right: It bears repeating.

In 2012 the Los Angeles Times published a story revealing what many already knew in their bones, and from the pattern of nominees over the years. Based on a sample of nearly 90 percent of the 6,000-plus academy members, the Times concluded that more than 90 percent of voters were white and more than 70 percent were male. Even so, what gives? Even a mass of solidly entrenched older white males should be able to recognize talent on the order of Coogler.

Earlier this month, accepting the LA Film Critics Association's New Generation Award, the "Creed" director noted that it wouldn't hurt what's left of the critical community to diversify its own ranks. He said he appreciated the critical response to his work and that "in this world of Rotten Tomatoes and clickbait," strong, independent critical voices are more valuable than ever. But he challenged those in attendance to "find the diversity … find the next Justin Chang," referring to Variety's chief film critic.

Academy President Boone Isaacs was right to express her frustration with the nominations this year. Now comes the hard work. Now it's up to her to make sure the academy membership — one year, five years, a decade from now — goes beyond the pale. But it starts with the studios.

They need to go there first.

-Michael Phillips, Chicago Tribune, TNS

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Criminal mastermind?

Not so much

Recently captured Mexican drug lord Joaquin 'El Chapo' Guzman isn't as suave as he thinks.

BY LAUREN TORRES
Staff Writer

The infamous drug lord Joaquin Guzman, known as "El Chapo," may be good at escaping prisons, but no one escapes the bad decisions made when it comes to a crush.

El Chapo was captured on Jan. 8 for what may be the last time, and the reason is as ridiculous as it is scandalous.

With a mile-long rap sheet that could easily belong to a video game character, El Chapo was brought down and imprisoned again by his need to impress a woman.

I can't say I blame the guy.

El Chapo's main mistakes that led to his capture this time were simple: flirtatious text messages to actress Kate del Castillo, being influenced by the idea of glamorous Hollywood connections and getting too comfortable in his setting.

Someone as famous as him certainly got into the drug business for the same perks that come with being a Hollywood star. The difference here is that being a drug lord will never reach the height of fame without equal risks

It's so ironic it almost hurts until you remember who he actually is. But in the grand scheme of things, notoriety doesn't matter.

It turns out anyone, El Chapo included, can make questionable and poorly thought out choices over a nice pair of eyes and a tempting smile.

The text messages between El Chapo and del Castillo, published by CNN, are humorously simple with an innocent quality to them that you don't expect to see from anyone over the age of 18.

It's hard to believe that this man with so much world experience, who escaped prison through a tunnel on a motorcycle, loses track of priorities while flirting with his crush, like we all do.

El Chapo is probably the most notorious drug lord of our time. He escaped prison twice, has hundreds of deaths on his and his associates' hands and is responsible for immeasurable amounts of drug smuggling and corruption.

The bragging he does in his interview with actor Sean Penn, claiming he had supplied "more heroin, methamphetamines, cocaine, and marijuana than anybody else in the world," according to the New York Daily News, paints a clear picture that El Chapo thought he was untouchable after a few wins.

In essence, El Chapo has just learned you can't have your drug-infused cake and eat it too.

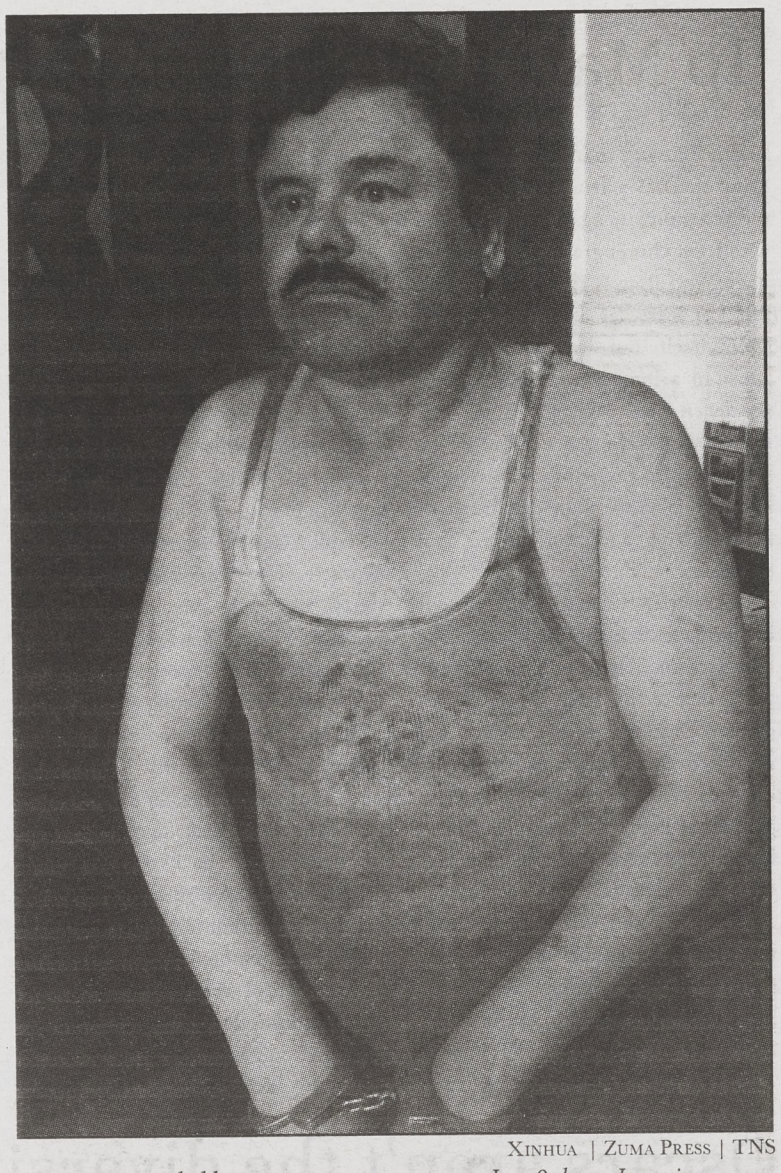
Penn said in a CBS interview on Jan. 15 that the point of his own interview was to highlight the ineffective methods the government uses in the war on drugs, specifically how going after one or two major cartels doesn't make a dent in lowering drug use. He claims that his meeting and interview with Guzman had nothing to do with his capture.

While this may be true, it certainly didn't help keep El Chapo concealed, nor did Penn succeed in getting his point across to readers, or more importantly the government, at all.

Penn clearly didn't stop to think how this would affect Guzman.

He knew this was a wanted man and he knew the amount of effort Mexico had put forward in capturing and keeping him.

Mexican officials must be embarrassed beyond measure that a Hollywood actor not only found El Chapo first, but had the audacity to go over their heads and publish a detailed interview with him in one of America's most popular magazines.



XINHUA | ZUMA PRESS | TNS

An image provided by an anonymous source on Jan. 8 shows Joaquin Guzman Loera, alias "El Chapo," handcuffed after his detention in a place of Mexico not yet determined by authorities of the country. Fugitive drug kingpin Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman has been recaptured months after his prison escape, President Enrique Pena Nieto said.

That's a slap in the face to Mexico, and Penn won't be the one paying for it.

El Chapo is once again in custody, but with the way he's weaseled his way out before, there are no bets on how long he'll stay there.

A letter to the stressed

Being present on campus can teach you just as much as your classes can.

BY MICAYLA VERMEEREN
Opinions Editor

Dear 49ers,

You made it.

Some of you may have just survived your first week at The Beach, and some of you may have had more first weeks than you'd like to admit, but regardless of your Cal State Long Beach history, you're part of this university.

For the love of all that is good, appreciate that.

We've all heard from US News that CSULB is neck and neck with San Diego State for most applications this past fall, and we've all seen the plethora of rankings handed down by everyone from Forbes magazine to TIME magazine that sing the praises of our good old homestead.

But the longer I spend on this campus, the more I look around and see students completely disconnected from their peers, their professors and even the campus itself.

I get it. I spent my first year figuring out which units I could take and transfer out with. The only thing that pulled me out of this black-and-gold-hating funk was realizing that whether I really liked it or not, I was here.

And oh, how beautiful it is to be a part of it all.

It can take a moment to realize the value of this school and find something here to connect with, but don't psych yourself out of the experience. At the very least, give yourself credit for getting an offer and accepting admission. According to school records, only 31 percent of over 56,000 applicants did. That alone is a remarkable feat.

Once you've acknowledged the hard work you've put in to get here, realize exactly where you are.

Be present.

Look at the 3,200 peach trees scattered across campus, donated years ago by the people of Long Beach to bring more beauty and nature to campus.

Find solace from the chaos of back-to-back classes in one of the pop-up hammock parties sponsored by Project Chill once a semester or so at the University Student Union, or wander through the University Art Museum that even Velvet Underground's own Lou Reed has contributed to.

Introduce yourself to your new professors and acknowledge that they, too, have once been students. And they, too, still have lives and personalities outside their syllabi.

Join an organization that supports your race, religion, sexual identity or sobriety.

Learn.

You'll see parts of yourself in new lights and find something, anything, you'll want to dedicate yourself to full-stop.

You'll learn to trust yourself and take those leaps that may or may not work out, but are still worth the airtime.

And at the end of the day, isn't that the best kind of education we can get?

With love,

Your friendly neighborhood OpEdette, Micayla

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TARGET

Target to Hire Approximately 90 Team Members For New Store in Long Beach, Calif.

Interviews Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout January and February

What: Beginning now through Feb. 25, Target will host hiring events to fill approximately 90 full and part-time team member positions for its new store opening in Long Beach, Calif. Scheduled to open on March 9, the store will cater to local residents including students and faculty from nearby Long Beach State University, as well as staff and patients from Veterans Affairs Long Beach Hospital.

During the hiring events, store leaders will conduct pre-scheduled interviews with applicants and discuss Target's dynamic, team-oriented culture. Interested applicants are encouraged to visit Target.com/careers to apply in advance.

When: Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout January and February
8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday

Where: Existing Long Beach Target store
2270 North Bellflower Boulevard
Long Beach, Calif. 90815

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WEEKEND PREVIEWS

John Fajardo | LBSU Athletics
Sophomore Gabe Levine dunks the ball in LBSU's four-point loss to UC Irvine on Jan. 14 inside the Walter Pyramid.

Men's Volleyball

Who: No. 3 BYU (3-1, 1-1)
When: Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m.
Where: Walter Pyramid

Need to know: The Cougars swept Long Beach State (5-0, 2-0) in 2015 and own an all-time record of 30-24 against the 49ers. LBSU's last win against BYU came on March 7, 2014, a 3-1 win inside the Walter Pyramid.

The 2016 Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Men's Volleyball Coaches' Poll picked BYU to finish on top of the conference this year. The Cougars are currently sitting at the No. 3 spot in the country, one place behind LBSU.

LBSU's blockers will have to watch for sophomore Ben Patch, who recorded 45 kills over two games against then-No. 11 Stanford over the weekend. The opposite hitter leads BYU with 4.71 kills per set.

Men's Basketball

Who: UC Riverside (10-10, 1-3)
When: Saturday at 4 p.m.
Where: SRC Arena, Riverside

Need to know: The Highlanders have lost five of their last six games going into Saturday's game. UC Riverside has also lost 12 straight games against Long Beach State (8-11, 2-2), dating back to 2010. LBSU leads the all-time series 32-10 and own a 19-4 record inside the Walter Pyramid.

If the 49ers want to maintain their dominance over UCR, they'll need to keep the Big West's third-leading scorer, senior Jaylen Bland. The 6-foot-3-inch guard is averaging 17.3 points per game and is shooting 41.5 percent from the field. Bland is also shooting 42.7 percent from behind the three-point line, good for fifth-best in the league.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Bibbins carries 49ers past Gauchos

The 5-foot-8-inch guard goes a perfect five for five from three-point land for a career-high 25 points.

By Josh Caudill
Assistant Sports Editor

Behind sophomore Justin Bibbins' career night, the Long Beach State men's basketball team defeated UC Santa Barbara, 77-67, on the road on Wednesday night.

Bibbins poured in 25 points and scorched the Gauchos (7-10, 1-3) by hitting a perfect five for five from three-point range inside the Thunderdome.

After gaining big leads over UC Irvine and Cal Poly in its last two games, only to falter down the stretch, LBSU (9-11, 3-2) stayed poised and fended off a late rally by UC Santa Barbara to pick up its first win since Jan. 9.

The 49ers held a 36-23 lead at halftime and led by double digits for most of the game. That was until UCSB's senior guard Michael Bryson caught fire and got his squad to within 6 points with less than 4 minutes left in the game.

However, a layup by Bibbins and free throws by sophomore forward Gabe Levin and senior guard Nick Faust helped end the Gaucho run and seal the victory for the 49ers.

Bryson finished as UCSB's leading scorer with 23 points.

The 49ers will travel to Riverside next to take on UC Riverside on Saturday at 4 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

BASKETBALL

continued from page 1

49ers a 22-6 lead.

The 49ers ended the half shooting an identical 43.8 percent from the field and from beyond the arc. However, in the second half LBSU only made 33.3 percent of its field goals. Junior guard Raven Benton said LBSU didn't come back from the locker room with the same intensity.

"We came out not as focused in the second half," Benton said. "Our turnovers led to their shots and they adjusted to our defense."

LBSU turned the ball over on its first two possessions of the third quarter and CSUF's junior forward Samantha Logan knocked down a triple that cut LBSU's lead to 13.

In the next four minutes and 22 seconds, the Titans went on an 11-6 run that slashed the lead to eight. The Titans continued chipping away at LBSU's lead at the start of the fourth quarter. CSUF guard Dani Craig drained a three, her first basket in an 11-point quarter.

"Dani Craig had a big game, she came up big for them, knocking down threes," Wynn said.

The freshman out of Coralville, Iowa finished with a team-high 16 points, going six for nine from the field and four for seven from beyond the arc.

Craig sliced the 49ers lead to three after she drained another triple with 5:55 left in the game. CSUF kept the score close until Benton said she took more initiative with her shot, putting the 49ers on her back. She made 10 of the 49ers last 11 points, including two free throws in the last 30 seconds of the game to give them a 61-55 lead to close out the game.

Although the 49ers had a tough time completing their victory against CSUF, currently last in the Big West conference, Wynn said this is no time to panic.

"At least we won the game," Wynn said. "We just need to value our possessions more and be smarter with the basketball."

LBSU is off the rest of the week, but will travel up north to play UC Davis next Thursday at 7 p.m.

Ben Hammerton | Daily 49er
LBSU head coach Jody Wynn draws up a play in the 49ers' narrow win over Cal State Fullerton on Wednesday inside the Walter Pyramid.